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INFORMATION ~~SECRET~~ REPORT

FLD 802

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT Police Participation on Commission  
Implementing Currency Reform

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The following, [redacted] is [redacted] an order issued to police authorities in the Russian zone by the German Administration of Interior.

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Berlin, 21 July 1948  
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Official Order, Referat K-3, No 1/48

Subject: Investigation of all persons who declared cash assets in excess of 5,000 RM on the occasion of the currency reform.

"On basis of instructions from the Deutsche Wirtschaftskommission, ultimate decision on release or confiscation of individual cash assets in excess of 5,000 RM will rest with special committees to be organized by the Internal Revenue offices. These committees will always include a member of the police. In accordance with Teletype Instruction N. 726 of the Praesidium of the German Administration of the Interior, dated 13 July 1948, to the Chiefs of the Land Police authorities, the police representatives should be selected from among the best officials of the K-3 Sections of the various Laender. If there is no higher Criminal Police headquarters located at the seat of the Internal Revenue office, the most appropriate member of the local criminal police office should be named as member of the commission.

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"In order to facilitate the decisions of the police member of the commission, certain inquiries will be undertaken. The following instructions are issued:

"1. Lists turned over to the appropriate Kripa authorities by the tax offices, in accordance with instructions of the DWK, will be forwarded without delay to the heads of the K-3 Sections of the various Laender.

"2. The heads of the various K-3 Sections will inform the police member of the commission about the dates on which the commission will meet at the various tax offices and about the individuals appearing before the commission for a decision on their cash assets.

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"3. Heads of K-3 Sections will expedite inquiries to determine whether individuals appearing before the commissions fall in categories covered by SMA Order 111, Paragraph 7 g, or by regulations published by the DWK on the currency reform, 21 June 1948, V Cipher 12 c.

"4. To obtain the above-required information, heads of K-3 Sections will take the following measures:

- a. Search pertinent K-3 files and other appropriate police records to determine whether the individuals appearing before the commission should be classed as speculators.
- b. Collect information from the appropriate K-5 Sections to determine whether the persons concerned fall under SMA Order 203, ACA Directives Nos. 24 and 38, or SMA Order 160.
- c. Obtain information from the price control offices to determine whether, on basis of previous information, there is a basis for the assumption that the persons in question obtained their cash assets in an illegal manner.
- d. Notify the local Criminal Police authorities to undertake all such investigations which cannot be handled expeditiously by the Krimbsamt or from the location of the Krimbsamt.

"5. After the investigations are completed, a report on all persons appearing for consideration will be delivered to the police representative of the commission. These reports will serve as basis on which to decide whether, from a police standpoint, the various assets should be released. The reports should not be limited to a mere tabulation of violations and offenses which may form the basis for possible criminal prosecution, but should also include brief summaries of the criminological background in order to enable the police member to judge the advisability of releasing the blocked assets also on basis of the individual's way of living and the methods by which the sums in question were acquired.

"6. The Chiefs of K-3 Sections of the Laender Criminal Police are responsible for carrying out these instructions within their jurisdiction."

25X1A Comment: Paragraphs 4 b and 5 clearly indicate that the decision to release blocked cash assets will be at least partially based on political as well as economic considerations. Above instructions also enable members of the K-3 Section of the Criminal Police to act as investigators, prosecutors and judges without the possibility of appeal against their decision.

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